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WEYMOUTH PORT
HEALTH AUTHORITY

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Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for Year ending

31st December, 1949

:::

E. J. GORDON WALLACE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Port Medical Officer

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WEYMOUTH
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Chairman: W. Moggeridge, esq.

Members:	A. Biles, esq., j.p.	Weymouth Borough Council
	A. P. Burt, esq., j.p.	
	C. G. Hobbs, esq.	
	H. A. Medlam, esq.	
	E. W. Priddle, esq.	
	T. W. Hopkins, esq.	
	J. A. Attwoull, esq.	Portland Urban District Council
	B. S. W. Fancy, esq.	
	B. Godfrey, esq.	
	F. G. Pope, esq.	
	C. H. Hyde, esq.	Wareham & Purbeck Rural District Council
	W. R. G. Bond, esq., j.p.	
	C. G. S. Vine, esq., j.p.	Dorchester Rural District Council
	E. W. Gray, esq.	

Clerk: G. G. H. Symes, esq., m.a.

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. E. J. Gordon Wallace

Port Health Inspector: Mr. E. V. Abbey, m.s.i.a.

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WEYMOUTH
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

HEALTH CENTRE,
WESTHAM ROAD,
WEYMOUTH

February, 1950

To the Chairman and Members of the Weymouth Port Health Authority

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with Article 17(5) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations 1935, I have to submit for your information and consideration my Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health for the year 1949.

As requested in Ministry of Health Circular 104/49, this Report has been prepared on the lines indicated in Memorandum 302/S.A. and permanent arrangements which were fully described in the Annual Reports for 1946-48 and have not since been altered, have been omitted from this Report. Certain statistical information—included in the Tables which follow—has already been forwarded to the Ministry of Health.

No unusual occurrences took place and it was not necessary to make any special report to the Ministry of Health during the year.

On certain occasions when it was necessary to board vessels in Weymouth Bay or further out in the Channel to remove sick or injured merchant seamen, the Captain-in-Charge, H.M. Dockyard, Portland, put an M.F.V. at my disposal and this co-operation was very much appreciated.

It is again a pleasure to have this opportunity of thanking the Members of the Authority for their kindness and consideration, the Clerk for his ready co-operation and Mr. E. V. Abbey, Port Health Inspector, for his willing assistance at all times. I am also most grateful to the Divisional Marine Manager, British Railways, and the Officers of H.M. Customs for their continued help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

E. J. GORDON WALLACE,
Port Medical Officer

TABLE A

I.—Amount of Shipping entering the Port during the Year

	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected By the Medical Officer of Health	Number inspected By the Port Health Inspector	Number reported to be defective	No. of vessels on which defects were remedied	No. of vessels on which defects were found and reported to Ministry of Transport Surveyors	No. of vessels reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
FOREIGN :—								
Steamers ...	544	341,130	6	512	7	6	—	1
*Motor ...	133	22,916	1	129	3	3	—	1
Sailing ...	1	181	—	1	—	—	—	—
Fishing ...	4	134	—	2	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign	682	364,361	7	644	10	9	—	2
COASTWISE :—								
Steamers ...	173	65,538	—	36	3	2	—	—
*Motor ...	119	11,714	1	49	2	2	—	—
Sailing ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fishing ...	3	181	—	1	—	—	—	—
Total Coastwise	295	77,433	1	86	5	4	—	—
Total Foreign and Coastwise	977	441,794	8	730	15	13	—	2

*Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

TABLE B

II.—CHARACTER OF THE TRADE OF THE PORT

(a) Passenger Traffic during the year

No. of Passengers	1st and 2nd Classes	3rd Class	Transmigrants
Inwards	62,830	Nil	Nil
Outwards	68,060	Nil	Nil

These figures represent the passenger traffic between Weymouth and the Channel Islands.

No passengers were landed from foreign ports during the year.

(b) Cargo Traffic

There has been no alteration in the character of the imports and exports to and from the Port.

(c) Foreign Ports from which vessels arrived during 1949

Aalborg, Abadan, Antwerp, Bahia Blanca, Caen, Casablanca, Dieppe, Freetown, Ghent, Narvik, Roscoff, Rotterdam, Trinidad, Welkom.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

The Port is not approved for the landing of aliens.

III.—WATER SUPPLY

There was no alteration during the year.

IV.—PORT HEALTH REGULATIONS, 1933 & 1945

The only change in local arrangements is that in future any cases of smallpox or suspected smallpox will be admitted to Crabwood Smallpox Hospital, near Winchester.

TABLE C

Cases of Infectious Sickness landed from Vessels

Disease	No. of Cases during the year		No. of Vessels concerned	Average No. of cases for previous 5 years
	Passengers	Crew		
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Nil	1	1	Nil
Scarlet Fever	Nil	1	1	Nil

TABLE D

Cases of Infectious Disease occuring on Vessels during the voyage, but disposed of prior to arrival

Disease	No. of Cases during the year		No. of Vessels concerned	Average No. of cases for previous 5 years
	Passengers	Crew		
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

No cases of Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Smallpox or Typhus occurred, and no Plague-infected rats were discovered. No severe outbreak of Malaria occurred on any arriving vessel during the year.

V.—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS

Rats destroyed during the year

TABLE E

(1) On Vessels

No. of Rats	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total in Year
Black ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Brown ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil
Species not recorded	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil
Examined	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil
Infected with Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil

TABLE F

(2) In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses

No. of Rats	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total in Year
Black ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Brown ...	19	34	21	—	—	7	—	16	144	65	—	8	314
Species not recorded	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Examined	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil
Infected with Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil

TABLE G

Measures of Rat Destruction on Plague "infected" or "suspected" Vessels or Vessels from Plague infected Ports arriving in the Port during the year

No Vessels, to be included in Table G, arrived in the Port during the year.

TABLE H*

Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued during the year

Net Tonnage	No. of Ships	No. of Deratisation Certificates Issued After Fumigation with H.C.N.	Sulphur	H.C.N. and Sulphur	After Trapping, Poisoning, etc.	Total	No. of Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
Ships up to 300 tons	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, from 301 tons to 1,000 tons	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
,, from 1,001 tons to 3,000 tons	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, from 3,001 tons to 10,000 tons	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
,, over 10,000 tons	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	5	5

*Applicable only to those Ports approved by the Minister of Health for the issue of Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates in accordance with the provisions of Article 28 of the International Sanitary Convention, 1926. (Form Part II).

VI.—HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES

TABLE J

Classification of Nuisances

Nationality of Vessel	Number inspected during the year	Defects of original construction	Structural defects through wear & tear	Dirt, Vermin & other conditions prejudicial to health
British	677	Nil	7	7
Other Nations	53	Nil	1	Nil

VII.—FOOD INSPECTION

(1) Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1925-1935.

The following table supplied by the Inspector shows the quantities of Foods detained as unsound, and the action taken, during the year :—

Foods	Quantities	Dates Detained	Action Taken
1 Turkey	22 lbs.	14-1-49	Surrendered and Destroyed, 16-1-49
1 Cake	1 lb.	29-3-49	Surrendered and Destroyed, 29-3-49
2 Lobsters	3 lbs.	29-6-49	Surrendered and Destroyed, 29-6-49

Total weight of foodstuffs destroyed 26 lbs.

(2) Shellfish.

The Port Health Inspector paid periodic visits to the foreshore at low-water but no contraventions of the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations 1934 were observed.

It was not possible during the year to renew the boards giving Warning Notice under the Weymouth (Shellfish) Regulations 1922, as the licence for the necessary timber had not yet come to hand.

WEYMOUTH
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
CASTLETOWN,
PORTLAND

3rd February, 1950

To Dr. E. J. Gordon Wallace,
Port Medical Officer,

Sir,

In accordance with the requirements of Article 27(8) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations 1935, I herewith submit particulars of my work during the year 1949, as Port Health Inspector and Assistant Food Inspector to the Weymouth Port Health Authority.

Particulars of Ships Inspected in the Port during 1949

Nationality	Where Inspected: Weymouth	Where Inspected: Portland
British	615	62
Argentine	—	1
American	1	—
Belgium	1	—
Danish	—	2
Dutch	13	3
Finnish	—	1
French	26	—
German	1	1
Panama	—	2
Swedish	—	1
TOTALS	657	73

CLASSIFICATION :—

	Weymouth	Portland
Foreign Steamships	500	12
,, Motor Vessels	112	17
,, Sailing Vessels	1	—
,, Fishing Vessels	2	—
Total Foreign ...	615	29
Coastwise Steamships	10	26
,, Motor Vessels	16	33
,, Sailing Vessels	—	—
,, Fishing Vessels	—	1
Total Coastwise ...	26	60
Total Foreign and Coastwise ...	641	89

Number of Inspections made during the Year

Total Number of Vessels Inspected	730
Re-Inspections after the giving of Notices	23
Re-Visits to Ships discharging Food Cargoes	72
Visits under the Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933, Deratisation of Ships	64
Total ...	889

Number and Result of Notices Served

The following table shows the number of Notices served during the year and the number which were satisfactorily complied with.

	Served	Complied With
Informal	18	15
Statutory	Nil	Nil

Food Inspection

Six hundred and twelve visits and seventy-two re-visits were made to vessels discharging cargoes during the year. Only three small items of foodstuff were condemned as unfit for human consumption, details of which are included in the Report.

The total number of packages of food landed in the Port during 1949 was :—

	Packages		Weight Tons	Cwts.
Tomatoes	4,777,202	...	30,125	12
Potatoes	112,522	...	3,002	5
Broccoli	38,787	...	950	19
Other Produce	74,179	...	1,479	4
Total Number ...	5,002,690	Total	35,558	0

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Port Health Authority and to yourself as Port Medical Officer for the support and consideration afforded me during the year. Also to the Officers of H.M. Customs Waterguard, the Naval Stores Officer and Staff, the Managers and Staffs of the Shipping Agents in Portland and Weymouth and various members of the British Railways Executive and Pier Staff for the assistance which has been so willingly accorded to me.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

EDWARD V. ABBEY,

Port Health and Assistant Food Inspector

BRITISH MUSEUM
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JEFFERY BROS.,
OF WEYMOUTH